* Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is supplied for automobiles through a number of retail outlets in Delhi and Mumbai to cater to the CNG fitted vehicles.

* 24 critically polluted areas have been identified. Action Plans have been drawn up for restoration of environmental quality in these areas.

* Action Plans for control of pollution in Delhi and Mumbai are being implemented. A decreasing trend in Air pollution has been observed recently in Delhi and Mumbai due to various pollution control measures taken by the Government.

Participation of Private Sector in Waste Disposal

4545. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are planning to involve private sector in waste disposal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how Government plan to dispose off the increasing quantity of waste particularly in Urban areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) Since waste disposal in urban areas is the responsibility of the Urban Local Bodies, it is for these bodies to plan and decide on the involvement of the private sector. It is understood that a few Municipal Corporations in the country have contracted out a part of the municipal functions on waste disposal to private parties.

The Ministry of Urban Development is involved in assisting the State Governments and Urban Local Bodies in policy formulation and sensitising them on private sector participation, as well as exposure to international experience in this area.

Disposal of Applications for Conversion of Leasehold to Freehold

4546. DR.Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received from Golf Link and Ganga Apartments areas of New Delhi for conversion of leasehold to free hold;

(b) the number of applications disposed off, so far;

(c) the reasons for delay, in disposal of applications received three and half years back; and

(d) by when these will be finally cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) upto 31-3-2000, 127 applications have been received out of which 88 applications have been finally disposed off as on 19-4-2000. No application has been received from Ganga Apartment.

(c) There are three cases, which are pending for more than three years. The pendency of these cases is due to certain technical complications discrepancies in documents.

(d) The pending applications will be cleared within 3 months from the date of receipt of complete documents/payments/settlement of tytle issue/court case ?

Recommendations of Committee of Technical Experts

4547. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1958 and 2585 given in the Rajya Sabha on March 13, 2000 and April 17, 2000 respectively and state :

(a) what are the details of recommendations made by the Committee of Technical Experts constituted by VC, DDA;

(b) the reasons with details thereof for summarily rejecting the report submitted by the Technical Expert Committee;

(c) whether Government will reconsider their decision so that the owners of DDA flats carry out modifications legally as in any case majority of flats owners do make modifications/alterations, which breeds corruption/nepotism in DDA/MCD; and

(d) if not, the detailed reasons and rationale thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) The Technical